

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00  
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01  
IOE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /115 W  
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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 0764

IO FOR PALMER

PASS LABOR FOR HOROWITZ, QUACKENBUSH, AVERY & LINSENMAYER

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ETEL, ITU  
SUBJECT: ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE AT ILO

REF: (A) GENEVA 342; (B) GENEVA 579

1. SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE CONVEYS THE VIEWS OF A  
SENIOR ILO OFFICIAL ON POSSIBLE ARAB MOVES AGAINST  
ISRAEL AT THE MARCH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY  
AND AT THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE IN JUNE.  
END SUMMARY

2. A SENIOR ILO OFFICIAL WHO HAS THE CONFIDENCE OF  
THE DIRECTOR GENERAL BELIEVES THAT THE ARABS ARE  
STILL NOT DECIDED ON HOW TO HANDLE THE ISRAELI ISSUE  
WHEN IT COMES UP AT THE MARCH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING  
BODY (GB). ARAB OBJECTION TO THE UPSAHL MISSION  
LEFT THE DG WITH NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO END HIS "FOLLOW UP"  
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TO THE 1974 RESOLUTION; NEITHER CAN THE DG MEET  
ARAB DEMANDS TO "ENFORCE" THE RESOLUTION OR TO TAKE  
CORRECTIVE STEPS UNTIL HE HAS A PROPER DETERMINATION  
THAT TRADE UNION AND HUMAN RIGHTS HAVE IN FACT BEEN  
VIOLATED. THUS, THE ARABS MAY HAVE PAINTED THEMSELVES  
INTO A CORNER WHERE THEY WILL BE UNABLE TO PREVENT THE  
GB FROM CLOSING THE BOOK ON THE DIRECTOR GENERAL'S

FOLLOWUP TO THE 1974 RESOLUTION. CERTAIN MODERATE ARAB COUNTRIES (EGYPT AND TUNISIA) HAVE CAUTIOUSLY HINTED THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE BOOK CLOSED.

3. HOWEVER, THE POSSIBILITY OF ARAB COUNTERMOVES CANNOT BE RULED OUT. A PLO REP IN GENEVA HAS LET IT BE KNOWN IN A MATTER OF FACT WAY THAT THE PLO WILL PRESENT NEW INSTANCES OF ISRAELI VIOLATIONS OF TRADE UNION RIGHTS AT THE MARCH GB SESSION. IN ADDITION, THE ILO REP IN NEW YORK, ELIMANE KANE, HAS REPORTED THAT ARAB AMBASSADORS IN NEW YORK EXPECT THAT THE GB WILL ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL TO CLOSE THE BOOK AND THAT THEY HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING A NEW RESOLUTION AGAINST ISRAEL AT THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC) IN JUNE.

4. BEGIN COMMENT: THE ARABS STILL SEEM TO BE WEIGHING THEIR ALTERNATIVES. THE ARAB LABOR ORGANIZATION MEETING IN ALEXANDRIA ON MARCH 7 MAY SHED SOME LIGHT ON THEIR REACTION TO THE GB SESSION THE WEEK BEFORE, AND PERHAPS ON THEIR INTENTIONS AT THE ILC IN JUNE. A RESOLUTION OF CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL AT THE ILC WOULD HAVE TO BE WEIGHED AGAINST THE IMPACT ON (1) THE U.S. DECISION TO REMAIN IN OR TO LEAVE THE ILO AND (2) ON THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE TALKS.

5. WE THINK THE POSSIBILITY OF INTRODUCING NEW ALLEGATIONS AGAINST ISRAEL AT THE MARCH GB SESSION  
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IS LIKELY TO MATERIALIZE. IT WOULD SERVE THE PLO PURPOSE OF BRINGING THE ARAB MODERATES INTO LINE AND THEY MIGHT ALSO SEE IT AS A DEVICE TO ACCEPT THE CLOSING OF ONE BOOK WHILE IN EFFECT OPENING ANOTHER. IF THIS HAPPENS, WE, THE DG AND OUR IMEC ALLIES ON THE GOVERNING BODY WOULD BE TRYING TO PERSUADE THE ARABS TO PUT THEIR ALLEGATIONS INTO A LEGITIMATE INVESTIGATORY PROCEEDING. END COMMENT.. :-559

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## Message Attributes

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